

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed April 2, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. New Claims 11-21 have been added. Claims 1-21 are pending in this application.

It is respectfully pointed out to the Examiner that a Change of Correspondence Address form (PTO/SB/122) is being filed concurrently herewith.

The Abstract has been amended in response to the objection cited in the pending Office Action. Claim 1 is now reproduced in the Abstract. A copy of the amended Abstract, without corrections showing, is provided on a separate sheet.

Claims 1-8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Abdallah et al. (hereinafter "Abdallah"). Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Abdallah in view of Bindloss et al. (hereinafter "Bindloss").

Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references, either taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest "one or more register files, each for storing scalar and vector data and address information", as recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, Claim 1 is patentably distinct and non-obvious over the cited references for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claims 2-10 depend from Claim 1, either directly or indirectly, and thus include all of the limitations of Claim 1. Accordingly, Claims 2-10 are patentably distinct and non-obvious over the cited references for at least the same reasons set forth above for Claim 1.

Thus, reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

As noted above, new Claims 11-21 have been added. Claims 11-20 are dependent claims, and Claim 21 is an independent claim. Claims 11-20 depend from Claim 1, either directly or indirectly, and thus include all of the limitations of Claim 1. Accordingly, Claims 11-20 are patentably distinct and non-obvious over the cited references for at least the same reasons set forth above for Claim 1.

Moreover, each of new Claims 11-20 is patentably distinct and non-obvious over the cited references in their own right. For example, none of the cited references, either taken singly or in combination, teach or suggest “wherein the one or more registers each further store conditional information”, as recited in Claim 11. Further, none of the cited references, either taken singly or in combination, teach or suggest “wherein each of the one or more registers comprises at least one mode identifier field for storing at least one mode identifier therein”, as recited in Claim 12. Also, none of the cited references, either taken singly or in combination, teach or suggest “further comprising means for designating one or more functional units necessary for execution of an instruction as preferred slots, and wherein the at least one mode identifier field comprises information indicating whether values in a current slot are valid and an operation is to be performed on a particular slot, or whether the values in the current slot are invalid and associated ones of the plurality of functional units are to be powered down”, as recited in Claim 13. Additionally, none of the cited references, either taken singly or in combination, teach or suggest “wherein the at least one mode identifier field comprises a plurality of mode identifier fields, each of the one or more registers comprises a plurality of register segments, and each of the plurality of register segments

is associated with a different one of the plurality of mode identifier fields”, as recited in Claim 14.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of the claims set forth in the Office Action of April 2, 2004 be withdrawn, that pending claims 1-21 be allowed, and that the case proceed to early issuance of Letters Patent in due course.

A Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 is enclosed, in duplicate, for processing charges for one (1) extra claim over twenty (20) through the Applicant's IBM Deposit Account #50-0510. It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully submitted,



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